

This transmittal notifies the inclusion of the following additional MDE items: seventy-three (73) AIM-120C-8 AMRAAM; and fifty-two (52) AMRAAM-ER. The following non-MDE items will also be included: AMRAAM captive air training missiles; weapons support equipment; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total value of the new items is \$322 million. The estimated MDE value will increase by \$262 million to a revised \$409.9 million. The estimated non-MDE value will increase by \$60 million to a revised \$92.1 million. The estimated total case value will increase by \$322 million to a revised \$502 million. MDE constitutes \$409.9 million of this total.

(iv) (U) Significance: This notification accounts for requested additional MDE and non-MDE not included in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed sale will support Lithuania's commercial purchase of the National Advanced Surface-to-Air Missile System.

(v) (U) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO Ally that is an important force for ensuring peace and stability in Europe.

(vi) (U) Sensitivity of Technology: The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the original notification applies to the additional items reported here.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) (U) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 22, 2026.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is still available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications that have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such an annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION TRANSMITTAL
LETTER

Please find enclosed the following notification from the Department of State.

Department Notification Number: RSAT 26-42

Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 26-42 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of the Netherlands for de-

fense articles and services estimated to cost \$200 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Recipients:
Speaker of the House of Representatives
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
Sincerely,

PAUL D. GUAGLIANONE,
Senior Bureau Official,
Bureau of Legislative Affairs.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26-42

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of the Netherlands.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$190 million.
Other \$10 million.
Total \$200 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Five hundred thirty (530) AGM-114R2 Hellfire Missiles.

Non-MDE: The following non-MDE items will also be included: U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command Security Assistance Management Directorate technical assistance; Tactical Aviation and Ground Munitions Project Office technical assistance; non-standard books, publications, and other Hellfire publications; integration support; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (NE-B-YCK; NE-B-YCJ).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: NE-B-YAZ.
(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None known at this time.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 22, 2026.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

The Netherlands—Hellfire Missiles

The Government of the Netherlands has requested to buy five hundred thirty (530) AGM-114R2 Hellfire Missiles. The following non-major defense equipment items will also be included: U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command Security Assistance Management Directorate technical assistance; Tactical Aviation and Ground Munitions Project Office technical assistance; non-standard books, publications, and other Hellfire publications; integration support; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$200 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a NATO Ally which is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will modernize the Netherlands' armed forces, expand its capability to strengthen homeland defense, and deter regional threats. This enhanced capability will contribute to the Netherlands' military goals of updating capability while further enhancing interoperability with the United States and other allies. The Netherlands will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Lockheed Martin Corporation, located in Orlando, FL. At this time, the U.S. Government is not aware of any offset agreement proposed in connection with this potential sale. Any offset agreement will be defined in negotiations between the purchaser and the contractor.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to the Netherlands.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 26-42

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The AGM-114R2 Hellfire Missile is used against heavy and light armored targets, thin skinned vehicles, urban structures, bunkers, caves, and personnel. The missile is inertial measurement unit based, with a variable delay fuse, improved safety and reliability.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that the Netherlands can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This proposed sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of the Netherlands.

ECUADOR

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, on March 6 of this year, the Pentagon released a video of what it claimed was the destruction of a drug traffickers' training camp near the village of San Martin in the jungle of rural Ecuador. As reported by the New York Times, "The video was meant to show that the U.S. military, which for months had bombed boats it says are carrying drugs from South America, was 'now bombing Narco Terrorists on land,'" according to a post by Defense Secretary Hegseth.

A thorough, credible investigation of this operation has yet to be carried out. However, based on detailed inquiries by American journalists and Ecuadorian human rights organizations who visited the site and collected testimonies and audiovisual evidence, the official narrative turns out to bear little, if any, resemblance to the facts as they are currently known.

Rather than a drug training camp, the Ecuadorian military, relying on U.S. military intelligence, appears to have bombed a cattle and dairy farm, targeting impoverished workers and terrorizing neighboring villagers.

According to workers at the farm, Ecuadorian soldiers arrived by helicopter on March 3. After reportedly arresting the workers at gunpoint, interrogating and subjecting them to beatings, suffocation, electric shocks, threats of mutilation, water immersion, and mock executions at an undisclosed military facility before releasing them, they returned to the site, poured gasoline on several structures, and burned them to the ground. Villagers said helicopters returned 3 days later, apparently dropping explosives on what remained of the farm, which the soldiers recorded on the video that the Pentagon released.

In addition to releasing the video, the Pentagon claimed credit for carrying out “target action” against the supposed traffickers at the request of the Ecuadorian authorities, although no U.S. troops were directly involved in the operation. Ecuadorian officials said the operation relied on U.S. “intelligence and support” to identify the farm, which they claimed was a camp for as many as 50 members of irregular armed groups.

According to the owner of the farm, he bought it 6 years ago and had a herd of more than 50 cows used for milk and meat. He said the destroyed structures were two wooden shelters, sheds for equipment, a chicken coop, and a place to make cheese. He said, “It’s a lie that 50 people trained here. Where are they going to train? Out in the open? There’s no logic.” He went on, “Everywhere you look there are animals: the cows I milk, the calves, the horses.”

According to an Ecuadorian human rights lawyer, “There isn’t a single public official who has come to verify what happened.”

This violent operation occurred in a remote, dangerous area along the border between Ecuador and Colombia where armed groups are engaged in illicit mining and cocaine trafficking. But the version of events recounted by the villagers and the farm workers is totally at odds with the version promoted by the Ecuadorian military and the U.S. Department of Defense. It has been more than a month and half since the incident, and the Ecuadorian Government has yet to present any credible evidence to dispute the farm workers’ harrowing account. Instead, they have continued to repeat their assertions and vilify the work of human rights organizations. The farm workers and the villagers have also reported acts of harassment and intimidation by the Ecuadorian military against them since the New York Times story came out. This is the same military that is accused of committing at least 43 cases of enforced disappearances in 2024, according to Amnesty International.

There is no evidence that, prior to issuing a press release characterizing the attack as a counter “narco-terrorist” operation, anyone at the Pentagon had visited the site or spoken with any of the Ecuadorian inhabitants. Perhaps the Ecuadorian Gov-

ernment is reluctant to conduct a credible, thorough investigation, fearing the possibility of having to refute the version of its own soldiers and the U.S. Secretary of Defense. But its responsibility is first and foremost to its own citizens, to the truth, and to the law. If the facts described by the owner of the farm are borne out, the operation violated multiple laws, including arbitrary detention, denial of due process, torture, and the destruction of property. And if this was, in fact, an attack based on faulty intelligence that never should have happened, the owner of the farm and the workers who were abused must be compensated and those responsible brought to justice.

REMEMBERING MR. JAMES MCARTHUR ALSOBROOKS

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. James McArthur “Mack” Alsbrooks. Mr. Alsbrooks was a beloved husband, father, neighbor, and friend who centered kindness and faith in all that he did.

Mr. Alsbrooks was born on January 24, 1948, in Wadesboro, NC, to Adam Willis Alsbrooks and Sarah Daisy (née Tillman) Alsbrooks. The eldest of three children, he stepped into his role as big brother with ease. He was a product of the District of Columbia Public Schools system, having attended Charles Young Elementary School, Brown Junior High School, and Spingarn High School. He continued to pursue his appetite for knowledge with the help of his teachers, including his music teacher, Roberta Flack.

On December 6, 1969, Mr. Alsbrooks married Patricia Ann Thompson. They raised their incredible daughters, Kimberly Patrice and ANGELA DENEECE in Suitland, Prince George’s County, MD. Mr. Alsbrooks’ daughters were the light of his life, and he sacrificed endlessly to provide them with the opportunity to chase their dreams. He was always their fiercest supporter and was able to stand by his daughter, our colleague, as she was sworn into the U.S. Senate. I saw him beaming with pride that day.

Mr. Alsbrooks applied his deep belief in humanity to every aspect of his life. He cofounded the Alliance of Concerned Men, an organization committed to interrupting cycles of violence and pursuing community healing. Through his church, he participated in a program to counsel, support, and uplift young men. He also served on the Prince George’s County Commission on Fathers, Men, and Boys, where he advocated for policies and programs that empower men across generations.

Mr. Alsbrooks was also a man of profound faith and a lifelong member of the church. He worshipped with the Ebenezer AME Church in Fort Washington, MD, for over four decades.

The outpouring of love from friends, family, and community members since Mr. Alsbrooks’ passing is a testament

to the kind of life he lived, one filled with joy, devotion, and an uncompromising belief in humanity. He will always be remembered for his wit, his empathy, and his love for a good game of pool.

He is survived by his beloved wife Patricia; his daughters Kimberly and ANGELA; his adored granddaughter Alexandra; his sisters Carol and Barbara; his nephew Aaron; his godson Avery; and many dear family members and friends—all of whom will carry his legacy forward.

I invite my fellow Members to join me in offering our sincere condolences to our colleague Senator ALSOBROOKS and to her family.

TRIBUTE TO KEN AYARS

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Ken Ayars, an extraordinary public servant, who is retiring from the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management after 39 years of service, including 28 years as the chief of the division of agriculture and forest environment.

In an industry where Rhode Island’s small specialty crop growers face tremendous challenges, Ken has been an advocate for growers, helping them stay in business and ensuring that their farmland can remain in production for generations to come. His extraordinary patience and even-keeled demeanor have undoubtedly contributed to his ability to work effectively with a wide range of stakeholders. And after nearly four decades of dedicated service, Ken has left an enduring mark on Rhode Island’s agricultural landscape, both figuratively and literally.

Indeed, by working closely with farmers and producers across the State, Ken has been instrumental in preserving farmland and safeguarding it from development, ensuring that agriculture remains a vital part of Rhode Island’s future. Overseeing the Farmland Preservation Program, Ken helped create a pathway for farmers to maintain ownership of their land while permanently protecting it for agricultural use. His leadership has helped protect thousands of acres and strengthened the long-term viability of farming in the State.

To help farmers sell their produce, Ken helped strengthen Rhode Island’s network of farmers markets and initiated the RI Grown marketing campaign. And under Ken’s leadership, Rhode Island emerged as a national leader in cultivating the next generation of farmers. According to the USDA Census of Agriculture, the State achieved the highest percentage of new and beginning farmers in the country, with more than 40 percent of its farmers falling into this category, a testament to his commitment to supporting and sustaining the agricultural community.

As Rhode Island’s chief of agriculture, Ken has guided farmers through tough times, from damaging